

REMARKS

The Rejections Under 35 USC §§ 101 and 112, second paragraph, and

Amendments to the Specification

The rejections to the form of the claims are moot in view of the amendments.

An obvious typing error is corrected in several claims, i.e., “methylo~~l~~melamine methylolunelamine.” One of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized the error and would have found the correction thereof obvious too, especially in view of the disclosure of the specification on page 3, the paragraph starting on line 5, see especially line 10, reciting “alkoxymethylol-melamines,” and page 12, first paragraph, especially lines 1-2, reciting “methylo~~l~~melamine (NH-CH₂OH-).”

The same typing errors discussed above are corrected in the specification too.

Claim 4 is further clarified by reciting that “the inorganic substrate in addition has a metallic coating.” This metallic coating is in addition to the at least one coating layer recited in claim 1, wherein each coating layer comprises at least one cured melamine-formaldehyde resin. This additional metallic coating is not restricted by the limitations of the coatings recited in claim 1, i.e., it does not have to comprise cured melamine-formaldehyde resin.

The term “W absorber” is amended to “UV absorber” in claim 8. This was an obvious typing error in context whose correction is also obvious, i.e., UV absorbers were already recited in the claim elsewhere.

The Rejections Under 35 USC §§ 102

Claims 1-3 and 20-22 are rejected as allegedly anticipated by GB ‘874.

The claims are further clarified by reciting that the claimed product is individually coated platelet-shaped carrier material. This is clear from the application. See, e.g., the examples, and the figures depicting the products of examples 1 and 5.

GB ‘874 teaches a hydrous oxide pigment product, where the pigment particles contain a surface coating of at least one hydrophobic aliphatic monocarboxylic acid, which product can be used in a hydrophobic film-forming material, which material among other possible listed ingredients, may include melanine/formaldehyde resin, to form a coating composition. See page 1, lines 62-78, and page 4, lines 32-38 and 68-120. The coating composition can be used as an automotive finish or as a tinting enamel. See page 7, lines 5-6. Even assuming that one of ordinary skill in the art would select

the melamine/formaldehyde resin as the hydrophobic film-forming material from the list of possible options in the reference, the resultant product of the reference would still be a film or coating of said resin with hydrous oxide pigment product embedded in said film or coating. The pigments of GB '874 are not individually coated with cured melamine-formaldehyde resin.

The Rejections Under 35 USC §§ 103

Various dependent claims are rejected as allegedly obvious over the combination of GB '874 with various additional references. These additional references do not cure the deficiencies of GB '874, but merely contain information relevant to aspects of the invention claimed in dependent claims. Applicants respectfully disagree with each of these rejections for a variety of reasons, but do not burden the record with elaborations thereof because if the independent claim is patentable, dependent claims thereof should be patentable too for at least the same reason as the independent claim is patentable.

The process claims are amended to be dependent on the claimed product. As such, the rejections thereof are moot. Here too, if the product is patentable, the processes of making should be patentable as well.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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